



Federal Aviation
Administration



Facility Orientation Guide

Anchorage ARTCC





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Anchorage Center Today

Anchorage ARTCC (ZAN) is the northern, eastern and western-most center. It is one of three designated oceanic centers. Anchorage ARTCC has control responsibility for more than two-million square miles of airspace. It has three areas of specialty and 15 sectors. ZAN operates on two separate automation platforms, ATOP (Advanced Technologies Oceanic Procedures) and MEARTS/FDP-2000 (Micro En Route Automated Radar Tracking System). Some of the sectors cover extremely large geographic areas that require more than two DSR screens of communication frequencies at one time. RADAR coverage is limited to 55-60% of the airspace.

ZAN interacts with ten Area Control Centers (ACC) in the international community: Tokyo, Vancouver, Edmonton, Reykjavik, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski, Norilsk, Mys Schmidta, Anadyr, Magadan, and Oakland ARTCC. Nine of those facilities directly adjoin ZAN airspace and we maintain letters of agreement (LOA) with seven of these facilities. Air traffic through the NOPAC and Russian route structure has increased 26% in 2007. Eastbound traffic on the Polar routes alone increased 237% in 2007.

ZAN's airspace encompasses more military airspace than any other ARTCC. This airspace covers approximately 60,780 square miles. The Department of Defense bills the Alaskan airspace and ranges as the "premiere training airspace in North America." Anchorage ARTCC assists the Alaskan North American Air Defense (NORAD) in planning and executing missions and training exercises in Alaskan airspace. In 2007, twelve active Air Defense operations intercepted 26 non-U.S. aircraft.

Anchorage ARTCC supports up to six major exercises annually, each involving up to 100 tactical aircraft and thousands of military personnel. Smaller readiness exercises, occurring two to three times each month, simulate scenarios such as an unknown aircraft penetrating the Alaskan Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ).

The largest of the military exercises, Red Flag Alaska and Northern Edge require 67,000 square miles of special use airspace or approximately five times that used for Red Flag in Nevada. The Air Force recently expanded this airspace to include airspace over Delta Junction, Alaska. The new special use airspace known as the Delta Temporary Military Operations Area or simply Delta TMOA, provides military pilots with a smooth transition to and from other pieces of military airspace.



The Air Force states that this airspace expansion is critical to the success of future Red Flag Alaska exercises. Former FAA Administrator Marion Blakey, while visiting Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska on July 4, 2007, pledged the FAA's assistance and cooperation toward the success of Red Flag Alaska.

ZAN's airspace is located within the infamous "ring of fire" and contains at least 33 presently active volcanoes. Several times a year, NOTAM and airspace reroutes and restrictions are required due to volcanic eruptions.

The Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation (AADC) Kodiak (rocket) Launch Complex (KLC) and spaceport facility along with the Geophysical Institute University of Alaska-Fairbanks (GIUAF) Poker Flat Research Range Launch Complex operate within domestic ZAN airspace. These two operations require separate Letters of Agreement and airspace restrictions during their operating periods.

Anchorage ARTCC adjoins several Russian ACCs. The majority of our Russian route airway structure passes through Magadan, Anadyr and Mys Schmidta ACCs.

An airspace review team from the Western Service Center completed their review of Alaska airspace in October 2007. Their review focus was how to optimize the Alaskan airspace. The team's recommendations were provided to the Western Directors of Operations in December 2007.



Anchorage Center Leadership Team

Bob Watkins and Bill Comer head the Anchorage Center Leadership Team. Below are their biographies that outline the career paths of these distinguished individuals and briefly describe their personal interests and hobbies.

Bob Watkins, Air Traffic Manager, Anchorage Center



Bob Watkins was born in Beaumont, Texas. He graduated from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. Bob began his distinguished career with the FAA in 1983 when he became an air traffic controller at Anchorage ARTCC. He performed in several capacities while at ZAN, including support specialist and supervisor, before moving to Washington DC to work at the FAA headquarters in 1997. In 2003, Bob transferred to Seattle ARTCC as a support manager. Bob spent five years in Seattle before moving to Los Angeles ARTCC to become the deputy air traffic manager. Thirteen years after Bob left, he returned back home to ZAN as the Air Traffic Manager.

Bob has many hobbies. He has a passion for photography and traveling. Bob has been many places, such as Antarctica and Thailand. In addition, he enjoys fishing and enjoying the wilderness of Alaska. Bob is married to his wife, Tara, and has a miniature Pomeranian dog named Snickers.



William Comer, Acting Staff Manager, Anchorage Center



William Comer was hired on Oct 18, 1981 at Anchorage Center (ZAN). He attended the FAA Academy for his initial air traffic training in Oklahoma City. William completed training and became an FPL controller in August 1983. In April 1985 he completed a 1-year detail in the ZAN Training Department as a training Instructor. William volunteered for the FAA Cross Option Program in 1986. He attended a 3-month training program at Minneapolis Center. William elected to remain at ZAN and accepted an assignment in the Quality Assurance Office, as a Quality Assurance Specialist. He remained in this position for approximately two and a half years, while completing an ATC associates Degree at University of Alaska, Anchorage. He was selected as a First-line Supervisor in April 1992. In February 2000, he was assigned to the Traffic Management Unit as a Supervisor Traffic Management Coordinator. William served as an Operations Manager from 2004 until 2006. In 2006, he was assigned as the ZAN Training Manager. In September 2008 he accepted a position as the Quality Control Manager. He presently is serving as the acting Staff Manager at ZAN. Over his 30 year FAA career he has participated in numerous committees and programs such as the aviation education program (ACE), SUPCOM, Facility Advisory Board, NATCA and Safety Management.

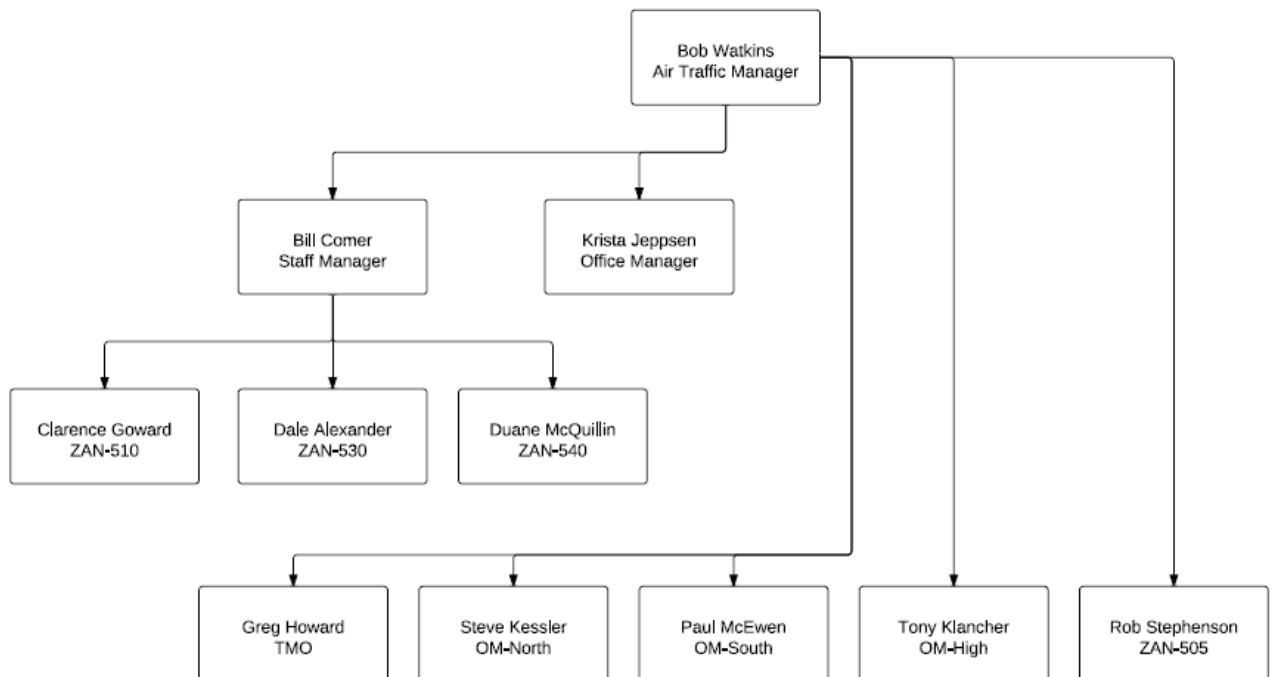
William's favorite part of his career has been the life long relationships he has developed with friends over the years.



The following organizational chart depicts the structure of the Anchorage Center Management Team.

Anchorage ARTCC Organization

Anchorage ARTCC Management Org. Chart





Our Expectations of All Employees

Anchorage Center leadership team expects all employees to:

- Come to work, be on time
- Be prepared – mentally and physically
- Understand leave policy and manage your leave appropriately
- Be cooperative and professional
- Treat people with respect and dignity
- Take initiative
- Be accountable
- Lead by example – be a good role model
- Do not tolerate or engage in any form of harassment or discrimination
- Actively participate in training
- Know your airspace and systems, know your equipment
- Use prescribed phraseology/correct facility and equipment names
- Follow rules and procedures
- Be open to feedback – provide honest information
- Be an effective team member



Surfing in Yakutat, AK



Policies

Reporting for Duty

Your typical duty day will start promptly at 7:00 am to 3:30 pm. If you cannot be present for your shift, you must contact your supervisor as soon as possible.

Hours of Duty

Your hours of duty will be from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm as stated above. However, when you progress through your training, you will be required to do shift work. Your breaks will be at the discretion of your supervisor or Front Line Manager.

Parking

Parking at ZAN is very spacious. ZAN security may inspect your vehicle any time that you arrive for duty. In order to gain access to the facility, you must show security your ID badge. Your vehicle can be subject to search at anytime for safety reasons.

Security

ZAN Security is here for your protection as well as others. They are responsible to assist management in any type of emergency and evacuation. Security will also inform the facility management of any visitors that arrive at the center.

Building Access

In order to gain access in to the building, you will need to have your ID badge. Your ID badge is a swipe card that has a security code attached to it. You must punch in your code to open the doors to the facility.



FAA ID Cards

Your ID must be displayed in plain sight at all times when you are in and around the facility. Your ID must be worn above your hip and no higher than your chin. If you lose your ID, you **MUST** contact your supervisor immediately.

Guests and Visitors

If you plan to have any visitors to the facility, you must make arrangements with your supervisor 24 hours in advance. Your visitor will be issued a temporary badge and **MUST** be accompanied by an FAA employee at all times.

Cell Phones

Cell phones are permitted for use at this facility. However, you may not use your cell phone in the area of operations.



Sunset View of Sleeping Lady



Local Area Information

Anchorage Profile

"The City of Lights and Flowers," Anchorage sits at the head of Cook Inlet, beneath the Chugach Mountains.



The Anchorage skyline



Anchorage is home to more than half of the population of Alaska. It possesses all the cultural amenities and activities one would expect from any urban center, but this one is surrounded by an awesome wilderness of mountains, valleys, glaciers, fjords, and volcanoes, both active and inactive.

When most people hear the name Alaska or Anchorage, it may stir up images of igloos and Eskimos, but Alaska's largest city is nothing like that at all. Anchorage is much warmer than you may think. In the summer, Anchorage sees an average temperature of 68 degrees, which is ideal for most outdoor summer activities. Here you can enjoy hiking (just like our Assistant Air Traffic Manager) on the many mountain trails. You can also walk through the many greenbelt parks; go salmon fishing, sight seeing, and many other summer activities around the area.

Winter time in Anchorage is.....cold. However, there are plenty of outdoor activities that you can participate in if you like the snow. The Alyeska Ski Resort in Gridwood, Alaska is located a few miles south of Anchorage. There, you can enjoy skiing or snow boarding (just like our Air Traffic Manager). There are many different trails outside of Anchorage that you may ride your snowmobile if you decide to get one. Winter also enables favorite annual events like the Fur Rendezvous and the world famous Iditarod sled dog race.

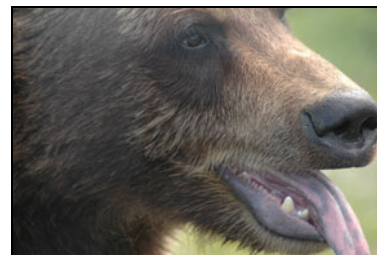


Attractions Aboard in Anchorage

The modern city which today occupies the Anchorage Bowl grew up downtown. Anchorage was born as a railroad-construction camp, and then became a boomtown when oil was discovered in 1957.

Downtown Anchorage clearly displays reverence for its history. A walk through the museums and historic buildings gives a rich glimpse into this fascinating past. Browse through galleries of art, native artifacts, and full-sized replicas of native dwellings at Anchorage's most informative museum. Don't miss Sydney Laurence's classic Mount McKinley painting. Alaska Center for the Performing Arts was built during the 1980s oil boom. "The PAC" is one of the nation's foremost performance houses. See fine art or watch an Alaskan film daily from 9am-9pm. Legend has it that artist Sydney Laurence's ghost haunts the building, transforming the colors of lights and sending empty elevators up and down. The Dena'ina Center is our new ultra modern convention center. Along with the Egan Center, which displays traditional and modern Alaskan art, including a magnificent wood-and-whalebone sculpture named "Eskimo Spirit Carvings." It is named in honor of Governor William Egan, Alaska's first elected governor.

The Anchorage 5th Avenue Mall, a five-level center anchored by JC Penney and Nordstrom, houses Alaska's only Banana Republic, Body Shop, and Eddie Bauer, in addition to local retailers such as Alaska Wild Berry Products and the Iditarod Store.





Sporting and Special Events



Anchorage boasts a couple of semi-professional teams in two major sports. We have two semi-professional baseball teams in Anchorage, the Anchorage Bucs and the Anchorage Pilots. Both teams compete at the Anchorage Baseball Field across from the Anchorage Football Stadium. Anchorage also has a semi-professional hockey team called the Anchorage Aces. They play at the Sullivan Arena across the parking lot from the Anchorage Football Stadium. The Aces are coming off of a championship season last year and hope to defend their championship. We also have a semi-professional Arena Football team called the Alaska Wild. Being a fairly new addition to the Intense Football League they are looking to improve on their performance. The Wild plays at the Sullivan Arena.

The Last Great Race on Earth – The Iditarod

A race over 1150 miles of the roughest, most beautiful terrain Mother Nature has to offer; from Anchorage in south central Alaska, to Nome on the western Bering Sea coast. Each team of 12 to 16 dogs and their musher cover over 1150 miles in 10 to 17 days, persevering through jagged mountain ranges, frozen rivers, dense forests, desolate tundra and miles of windswept coast; with temperatures far below zero, winds that can cause a complete loss of visibility, long hours of darkness and treacherous climbs. A race extraordinaire, a race only possible in Alaska.





Restaurants of Note

Simon and Seafort's- 420 L St., Ste. 202
Anchorage, AK 99501-1937
Phone: (907) 274-3502
World-class view and the finest Alaska seafood.

Gwennie's Old Alaska Restaurant- 4333 Spenard Rd
Anchorage, AK 99517
Phone: (907) 243-2090
Family restaurant steeped in history; serving generations of locals and tourists alike. The unique historic ambiance is an intriguing backdrop for the all-day breakfast menu and enormous sandwiches and dinners, but please don't feed the bears.



Moose's Tooth- 3300 Old Seward Hwy.
Anchorage, AK 99503-4129
Phone: (907) 258-2537
Handcrafted pizzas and our own ales and sodas.

Sourdough Mining Company- 5200 Juneau Street
Anchorage AK. 99518
Phone: (907) 563-2272
The Sourdough Mining Company Restaurant is a replica of an old mill house. Our menu offers a variety of selections. Enjoy a cocktail from their full-service Creekside Saloon while viewing Alaskan salmon in our backyard creek.

Glacier BrewHouse- 737 W. Fifth Ave.
Anchorage AK. 99501
Phone: (907) 274-2739
Located on the corner of 5th Avenue and H Street. Alaska's first choice for fresh Alaska seafood, rotisserie grilled meats, pizzas, handcrafted ales, classic cocktails. Voted Best BrewPub '96 to '98.



Online Resources

Local Area Resources

Municipality of Anchorage: www.muni.org/

Chamber of Commerce: www.anchoragechamber.org/

Housing and Relocating Assistance

Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc: www.akanhs.org/

National Search Site - Move.com: www.move.com/apartments/anchorage_alaska/

Anchorage Daily News Classifieds: http://www.adn.com/classified/real_estate/

Cellular Phone Service Providers

National Companies:

AT&T: www.wireless.att.com/home/

Sprint PCS: sprint.com/index.html

Nextel: www.sprint.com/index.html?brand=Nextel

Verizon: www.verizonwireless.com/b2c/index.html

Alaskan Companies:

ACS: www.acsalaska.com/Cultures/en-US/default.htm

Alaska DigiTel: www.alaskadigitel.com/

GCI: www.gci.com/

MTA: www.mtasolutions.com/

Local Television/News

NBC: www.ktuu.com/

CBS: www.ktva.com/

NBC/CW: www.aksuperstation.com/

PBS: kakm.org/

Anchorage Schools

Anchorage Public Schools: www.asdk12.org/

Private School Directory: www.50states.com/alaska/anchorage_private_schools.htm



Local Sports Teams

Baseball: Anchorage Bucs (Alaska Baseball League): www.anchoragebucs.com/

Baseball: Anchorage Glacier Pilots (Alaska Baseball League): www.glacierpilots.com/

Football: Alaska Wild (Intense Football League): www.goakwild.com/

Hockey - Anchorage Aces (East Coast Hockey League): www.alaskaaces.com/

Sports Leagues

Flag Football League: www.flagfootball.org/Alaska.htm

Softball League: www.alaskasoftball.com/

Anchorage Sports Association: www.anchoragesports.com/

Recreational Activities and Sports Links

Anchorage Parks & Recreation: www.muni.org/parks/sports.cfm

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center: www.anchoragemuseum.org/

Anchorage Zoo: www.alaskazoo.org/

Alaska Native Heritage Center: www.alaskanative.net/

Alaska Botanical Garden: www.alaskabg.org/

Alaska Museum of Natural History: www.alaskamuseum.org/

Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum: www.alaskaairmuseum.org/

H2Oasis Indoor Water Park: h2oasiswaterpark.com/

Alaska Hiking Trails: www.alaskatravel.com/alaska-adventure/alaska-hiking.html

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts (PAC): www.alaskapac.org/

Local Colleges and Universities

Alaska Pacific University: www.alaskapacific.edu/

Charter College: www.chartercollege.edu/

University of Alaska at Anchorage: www.uaa.alaska.edu/

Wayland Baptist University: www.wbu.edu/anchorage/

Travel to your Duty Station

Travel to your duty station from Oklahoma City can be an adventure.

Air travel will be approximately 12-14 hours of travel time with at least one stop.

If you drive, you can expect approximately 4000 miles taking about 65 hours of driving time. This will mean anywhere from 4 days to a week on the road. You will



be traveling through a foreign country (no, Canada is not part of the USA), which means you will need at minimum your birth certificate or preferably a passport in order to reenter the US when you reach the state of Alaska. Beginning June 1, 2009 a passport will be required.

During your trip you will most likely encounter Deer, Buffalo, Moose, Dall Sheep, Caribou, and possibly a Bear or two crossing or standing in the roadway. Extreme diligence is advised at all times. A good source for travel information through the north country is a travel guide called "The Milepost" which should be available at most bookstores. <http://www.milepost.com/>

Anchorage Center Area Map

Anchorage ARTCC
700 North Boniface Parkway
Anchorage, AK 99506

Anchorage Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) is adjacent to the main gate (Boniface Parkway) of Elmendorf Air Force Base.

